

## **REMARKS**

In the Communication dated April 14, 2008, the Examiner responded to Applicants' amendment to the claims filed January 30, 2008. The outstanding Communication is in the form of a Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment. On April 16, 2008, Applicants' Attorneys and Examiner Rinehart discussed the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment, together with directions outlined in Chapter 12 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure. It was agreed that Applicants' Attorney would amend the claims to place affirmed dependent claims into independent form, and any other dependent claims would be rewritten as new claims to depend from the affirmed dependent claims. Accordingly, Applicants have amended the claims as follows: claims 1-10 and 13-31 have been canceled; and claims 11 and 12 have each been separately amended and placed in independent form to each include the limitations of claim 1. Furthermore, Applicants have added claims 32-51. Claims 32-41 are copies of original claims 2-10 and 12 that now depend from amended claim 11. Claims 42-51 are copies of original claims 2-11 that now depend from amended claim 12. No new matter or new claim scope has been added to the application. Each of the claims presented herein follow the affirmance as determined by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences, and the discussion with Supervisory Patent Examiner Rinehart on April 16, 2008.

Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made in compliance with the outstanding Communication and with the Decision of the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. No new subject matter has been added to the application with the amendment to the claims presented herewith. Furthermore, Applicants are not conceding in this application that the canceled claims are not patentable over the art cited by the Examiner, as the present claim amendments and cancellations are only for facilitating expeditious prosecution of the allowable subject matter noted by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences. Applicants respectfully reserve the right to pursue these and other claims in one or more continuations and/or divisional patent applications. Accordingly, Applicants request that the Examiner indicate allowability of claims 11, 12, and 32-51.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of the application, the Examiner is hereby invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

For the reasons outlined above, an allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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